28. EMYS TECTUM, *Bell.*

Tab. XLV.

Pangshura tecta, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 60.

Hab. India.

29. KINOSTERNON SCORPIOIDES, *Gray.*

Tab. XLVI.

Swanka scorpioides, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 67.

Hab. Mexico and Surinam.

This is a very variable species; for after the study of numerous specimens, many of them in very different states of preservation, I find them so variable that I believe the differences chiefly depend on the kind and clearness of the water which they inhabit; but I have not been able to discover any permanent character to separate them into species, some coming from Surinam or Guiana on the east side, and others from Mexico on the west side of the American continent.

30. CHELODINA LONGICOLLIS, *Gray.*

Tab. XLVII. & XLVIII.

Chelodina longicollis, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 72.

Hab. Australia.

The sternum of this species is peculiarly broad and oval in front, and the shields of it are surrounded by a dark edge. The shields of the dorsal disk are very thin and veined. It is peculiar for the extreme length of the neck, and, like all the other species of the genus, hides its head under the side of the shell when oppressed, and does not withdraw it into the shell as most other Tortoises.

31. HYDRASPIS GALEATA, *Schœpff.*

Tab. XLIX. & L.

Pelomedusa subrufa, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 81.

Hab. South Africa; Cape of Good Hope.

The Cape *Pelomedusa subrufa* is always known by the uniform colour of its shell, while the *Pelomedusa nigra*, from Natal, is blacker and has the lower margin varied with triangular red spots.

32. TRIONYX GANGETICUS, *Cuvier.*

Tab. LI. (young).

Trionyx gangeticus, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 97.

Hab. India; Ganges; Pegu.

"In hunting for the soft Turtles in the hill-streams the men use a long iron fork, such as an old iron ramrod sharpened at one end, or a stout strip of bamboo, which they thrust down for a foot or two in the soft vegetable sludge and decayed leaves found along the margin of deep pools in the hill-streams. If the fork touches a Turtle concealed below, the motion of the animal is felt: a cautious examination is then made with the hand, and a fish-hook is cleverly inserted in the soft part of the mantle about the tail, then another, and even three or four, if the animal is large. A steady haul is now made, and out comes the Turtle, wildly floundering and snapping at every thing within its reach with pertinacious ferocity.

"Sometimes, when the animal is large, or the water deep, a stake is held over the animal's back, and, with a few well-delivered blows of a mallet, driven through both shells. Woe betide the limb, however, which comes within reach of the infuriated animal! I saw the top of one man's toe bitten clean off by a *Trionyx Phayrei* which was being 'staked;' and as these animals are both active and ferocious, it is always advisable to send a bullet through their brain as soon as possible. So tenacious of life, however, are these creatures, that their heads bite vigorously after being completely dissevered from their bodies.

"The natives eat all sorts indiscriminately; and perhaps the flesh of even the highly carnivorous soft Turtles may be palatable."—Theobald, *Journal of the Linnean Society*, vol. x. p. 8.

33. TRIONYX LABIATUS, *Bell.*

Tab. LII.–LIV.

Tyrse nilotica, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 108.

Hab. Africa: (North) Nile; (West) Sierra Leone and Fernandovas River.

The skeleton (Tab. LIV.) figured by Mr. Bell is in the Museum of the Cambridge Philosophical Society; and I can see no difference between it and the skeletons from the Nile. Little was known of the development of the dorsal shield of these animals when Mr. Bell wrote; and he seemed to regard the length of the free part of the rib, which is dependent upon the youth of the specimen, as a specific character.

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